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Required Report - public distribution

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## **Trinidad and Tobago**

### **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification**

### **FAIRS Export Certificate Report**

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**Report Highlights:**

Updated Section(s): Sections I thru IV.

U.S. Suppliers need be mindful of certification requirements for agricultural products entering Trinidad and Tobago. Although Trinidad and Tobago is quite receptive to U.S. products and all required certificates can be readily obtained by U.S. suppliers, careful attention to certification details will help prevent costly customs clearance problems. This report outlines Trinidad and Tobago's certification requirements and includes an Export Certificate Matrix as well as examples of select Export Certificates.

## Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government (Matrix) :

**NOTE:** This report was prepared by the Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office (CBATO) of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)/U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Miami, Florida for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
All Foods	Certificate of Free Sale	The products exported are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with US requirements.	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division
Animal Products/Fish Products	Health Certificate / Sanitary Certificate	The animal/marine products destined for food consumption are free from disease and conform to negotiated standards concerning animal/marine health. *See Section III for specific language required.	Food Safety/Food Quality  Animal Health Protection	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division  Ministry of Ag, Land & Marine Resources: Animal Health Sub-Division (Vet Services)
Meat Products/Poultry (Including pet foods)	Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholesomeness)	The meat/poultry products have been inspected by a certified veterinarian, both antemortem & postmortem, and are wholesome and fit for human consumption.  Additional statements must be made for canned and packaged meat products.  *See Section III for specific language required.	Food Safety/Food Quality  Animal Health Protection	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division  Ministry of Ag, Land & Marine Resources: Animal Health Sub-Division (Vet Services)

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Canned and Packaged Meats	Cooking/Processing Certificate	The canned meat/poultry products were manufactured in accordance with USDA meat/poultry processing regulations.  Must specify the temp./minutes of the sterilizing process and the sterilizing value	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division  Ministry of Ag, Land & Marine Resources: Animal Health Sub-Division (Vet Services)
Unprocessed Plant Products  (Fresh fruits and vegetables, rice, flour, peas, beans, plants & lumber)	Phytosanitary Certificate	The plant products have been inspected and are free of harmful pests and plant diseases, and comply with Trinidad and Tobago's phytosanitary regulations. Must declare from which US State the plant products originated.  *See Section III for sample language.	Food Safety  Plant Protection	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division  Ministry of Ag, Land & Marine Resources: Plant Quarantine Service
All Foods	Certificate of Analysis	Must give a complete chemical analysis of the product. Must identify the preservatives, food additives, and color additives of the product.	Food Safety/ Food Quality/ Heavy Metals/ Inorganic, Organic Standards	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division
Peanuts/Corn	Aflatoxin Certificate	An accredited laboratory has tested the peanuts/corn products and the products do not exceed proscribed aflatoxin regulations.	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division
Fish	Mercury/Heavy Metals Certificate (Certificate of Analysis)	The fish product meets or exceeds all purity standards specified by the Trinidad and Tobago government.	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division
Halal/Kosher Meat Products	Halal/Kosher Certificate	The meat product was slaughtered under religious ritual slaughter practices (Halal or Kosher).  *See Section III for sample language.	Religious Beliefs	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Dairy and Dairy Products	Certificate of Origin	Country of origin of raw materials	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division
Other Products	Other Certificates: Organically Grown Foods, Genetically Modified Foods, Irradiated Foods	Specific language may vary depending on the nature of the certificate. U.S. exporters should consult with the Chemistry/Food & Drug Division (see Government Agency Regulatory Contacts at the end of this report).	Food Safety	Min. of Health: Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division

## Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

•Certificate of Free Sale: The Ministry of Health, for the purpose of food safety, requires this certificate for all food products exported to Trinidad and Tobago.

Note: While the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)/Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS) often issues Certificates of Free Sale, it is important to note that the 1997 FDA Export Reform and Enhancement Act does not require FDA to issue export certificates for food products. However, since many foreign governments require Certificates of Free Sale, FDA intends to continue to provide this certification service as resources permit.

•Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate: The Ministry of Health requires this certificate for food safety, food quality, and food processing conditions. Additionally, the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources, Animal Health Sub-Division (Veterinary Services) requires this certificate for animal health protection purposes.

Note: USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is the principal federal agency responsible for issuing health certificates for animal products. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the primary federal agency responsible for issuing health certificates for harvested/produced seafood products.

•Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholesomeness): The Ministry of Health, as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources, require that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency for food quality purposes.

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issues Certificates of Wholesomeness guaranteeing that the meat/poultry products have been inspected by a FSIS Veterinarian, both antemortem and postmortem, and are wholesome and fit for consumption.

•Cooking and Processing Certificate: The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources, for the purpose of food safety, require this certificate for all canned and packaged meat products exported to Trinidad and Tobago.

- Phytosanitary Certificate:** This certificate is required by the Ministry of Health for the purpose of food safety, as well by the Ministry of Food Production & Marine Resources/Plant Quarantine Unit for domestic plant protection purposes.

Note: USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is the principal federal agency responsible for conducting inspections and issuing Phytosanitary Certificates.

- Certificate of Analysis:** The Ministry of Health requires this certificate for the purposes of food safety, food quality, heavy metals, and inorganic/organic standards.

Note: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issues Certificates of Analysis (for nuts and a few other exported products only) on a user-fee basis.

- Aflatoxin Certificate:** The Ministry of Health, for food safety reasons, requires this certificate.

Note: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), or other USDA accredited labs, issue Aflatoxin Certificates on a user-fee basis.

- Mercury/Heavy Metals Certificate:** The Ministry of Health, for food safety reasons, requires this official certificate for all U.S. fish products exported to Trinidad and Tobago.

- Halal/Kosher Certificate:** The Ministry of Health requires this certificate for religious belief purposes.

- Certificate of Origin:** The Ministry of Health requires this certificate for food safety reasons. The Ministry of Health has specific concerns regarding melamine in raw materials.

### **Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)**

- Certificate of Free Sale:** This certificate should attest that the particular products exported to Trinidad and Tobago are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements.

- Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate:** This certificate should declare that the animal/marine products destined for food consumption are free from disease and conform to negotiated standards concerning animal/marine health. This certificate should include the following attestation for animal products:

*This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, hog cholera, swine vesicular disease, African Swine fever, bovine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.*

The Trinidad and Tobago Government requires the following declaration on the Health Certificate for Pet Food:

*a. The producing plant has been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture under APHIS*

*Veterinary Services as a producer of pet food for export and is supervised by an official or accredited veterinarian.*

*b. The pet food meets the requirements of the United States for local use.*

*c. The animals used in the production of the food were presented for examination at slaughter and evaluated under standards existing for pet food in the United States or the State of origin of the product.*

*d. The raw materials have been manufactured and packaged in compliance with approved manufacturing practices in the country of export, designed to produce a product free from pathogenic microorganisms.*

*e. Any meat from cattle comes from animals which were subjected to ante-mortem examination (inspected prior to slaughter), and were not found to show any evidence or clinical signs of any disease transmissible by the certified materials. These animals did not show any clinical signs of generalized central nervous system disease. The feeding of ruminants with meat-and-bone meal and greaves derived from ruminants is banned in the United States, and this ban is effectively enforced.*

*f. The product has not been manufactured using animal protein from specified risk materials (SRM's) defined as: the brain, skull, eyes, trigeminal ganglia, spinal cord, vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum), and dorsal root ganglia (DRG) of cattle 30 months of age and older, and the tonsils and distal ileum of the small intestine of cattle.*

•Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholesomeness): This certificate should attest that the meat/poultry products have been inspected by a certified veterinarian, both antemortem and postmortem, and are wholesome and fit for consumption. This certificate should include the following attestation for fresh/frozen beef and beef products:

- a. The meat and meat products are derived from cattle that were subject to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection according to USDA regulations and were slaughtered after Jan 12, 2004.*
- b. All cattle are humanely stunned by a method that does not inject air into the cranial cavity.*
- c. The beef and beef products were not derived from and do not contain any of the following specified risk materials: brain, skull, eyes, trigeminal ganglia, spinal cord, vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae and the wings of the sacrum) and dorsal root ganglia, from animals over 30 months of age at the time of slaughter and the tonsils and intestine from pylorus to anus, of all animals regardless of age.*
- d. The beef and beef products do not contain any mechanically separated meat or advanced recovery meat.*

This certificate should include the following attestation for poultry and poultry products:

*The products do not originate from states that are under quarantine restrictions for any OIE listed diseases affecting poultry.*

•Cooking and Processing Certificate: This certificate should declare that the canned meat/poultry products were manufactured in accordance with USDA meat/poultry processing regulations. The certificate should specify the temperature/minutes of the sterilizing process and the sterilizing value.

•Phytosanitary Certificate: This certificate should certify that the shipment of plant products has

been inspected and is free of harmful pests and plant diseases, and complies with Trinidad and Tobago's phytosanitary regulations. Furthermore, the Phytosanitary Certificate must declare from which U.S. State the plant products originated.

While the Trinidad and Tobago Government has not specified a specific declaration required on the Phytosanitary Certificate, the following sample attestation can be used as a guideline:

*The products have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from pests and diseases and conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of Trinidad and Tobago.*

Note: The importation of soft, fleshy fruits and vegetables are prohibited from all areas where dangerous fruit flies (i.e. Mexican and Mediterranean) are known to occur unless approved treatments can be effectively performed. Additionally, the importation of planting material, namely plants and rooted cuttings, should be limited to soil-free plants and plant parts.

- Certificate of Analysis: This certificate should give a complete chemical analysis and microbiological analysis of the product. This certificate should also identify the preservatives, food additives, and color additives of the product.

- Aflatoxin Certificate: This certificate should attest that an accredited laboratory has tested the peanuts/corn products and the products do not exceed proscribed aflatoxin regulations.

- Mercury/Heavy Metals Certificate: This certificate should declare that the fish product meets or exceeds all purity standards specified by the Trinidad and Tobago government.

- Halal/Kosher Certificate: This certificate should ensure that the meat product was slaughtered under religious ritual slaughter practices (Halal or Kosher). While the Trinidad and Tobago Government has not specified a specific declaration required on Halal/Kosher Certificates, the following sample attestation can be used as a guideline for poultry products:

*The poultry products covered by this certificate are derived from birds that received (Kosher/Halal) slaughter as based upon documentation provided by religious authorities or by (Kosher/Halal) label declaration.*

The following sample attestation  
can be used as a guideline for beef products:

*The beef products covered by this certificate are derived from cattle that received (Kosher/Halal) slaughter as based upon documentation provided by religious authorities or by (Kosher/Halal) label declaration.*

- Certificate of Origin: The certificate must state the country of origin of the raw materials.

#### **Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements**

•Certificate of Free Sale: The Trinidad and Tobago government requests that a Federal Health Authority issue this certificate. Trinidad and Tobago does not accept a Supplier's or Manufacturer's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. The Certificate of Free Sale is valid for one year and can be applied to multiple shipments of the same product. Exporters are required to update this certificate with the Trinidad and Tobago Chemistry/Food and Drug Division on an annual basis.

•Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate: The Trinidad and Tobago Government requests that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. The Trinidad and Tobago Government does not accept U.S. State issued Health Certificates. The Health Certificate is valid for the length of time indicated on the certificate, otherwise valid for the indicated shipment, and it must accompany the products at the time of entry.

•Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholesomeness): The Trinidad and Tobago Government requires that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. The Government will not accept U.S. State issued Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificates. Customs Officials will accept the Certificate of Meat/Poultry for the indicated shipment only, and an original certificate must accompany the products at the time of entry.

•Cooking and Processing Certificate: The Trinidad and Tobago Government requests that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. The Government does not accept a Manufacturer/Supplier's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate is only valid for the indicated shipment, and the original certificate must accompany the products at the time of entry.

•Phytosanitary Certificate: The Trinidad and Tobago Government requires that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. The Trinidad and Tobago Government will not accept a U.S. State issued Phytosanitary Certificate or a Manufacturer/Supplier's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. Customs Officials will accept the certificate for the indicated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the plant products at the time of entry.

•Certificate of Analysis: The Trinidad and Tobago Government accepts a Manufacturer/Supplier's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate is valid for the indicated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the products at the time of entry.

•Aflatoxin Certificate: The Trinidad and Tobago Government accepts a Manufacturer/Supplier's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. Customs Officials will accept the Aflatoxin Certificate for the indicated shipment only, and an original certificate must accompany the peanut/corn products at the time of entry.

•Mercury/Heavy Metals Certificate: The Trinidad and Tobago Government accepts a Manufacturer/Supplier's Export Declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate is



valid for the indicated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the fish products at the time of entry.

- Halal/Kosher Certificate: This certificate may be issued by a private sector religious authority. An original certificate must accompany the product at the time of entry.

- Certificate of Origin: This certificate must be issued by an official body at the Federal or local level. The certificate is only valid for the indicated shipment, and the original certificate must accompany the products at the time of entry.

## **Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements**

The Food and Drug Act of 1960, the Pesticide & Toxic Chemical Act of 1979, the Animal Disease Importation Act of 1954, and the Plant Protection Act of 1975, are the most comprehensive set of laws that govern the importation of food and agricultural products into Trinidad and Tobago. In general, Trinidad and Tobago follows internationally accepted food standards and guidelines (i.e. those developed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the International Organization for Standardization), and may refer to U.S., Canadian, and European standards as well.

It is important to note that import permits are required by Trinidad and Tobago for a large number of fresh and semi-processed food products entering the country. An import permit is only issued to residents of Trinidad and Tobago. If an import permit is issued, it will detail the conditions under which the product will be allowed to enter into Trinidad and Tobago (e.g. certification or any treatment that may be required). Therefore, U.S. exporters should work very closely with their Trinidad and Tobago importers to make sure that they fully comply with the specified conditions of entry. For more information on the subject, see the 2009 Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report for Trinidad and Tobago ([2009 Trinidad and Tobago FAIRS Report](#)).

## **GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS**

### **A. U.S. Government Contacts**

Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office  
Foreign Agricultural Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
909 SE 1st. Ave Suite 720  
Miami, FL 33131  
Tel: (305) 536-5300  
Fax: (305) 536-7577  
E-mail: [atocaribbeanbasin@fas.usda.gov](mailto:atocaribbeanbasin@fas.usda.gov)  
Website: [www.cbato.fas.usda.gov](http://www.cbato.fas.usda.gov)

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Graciela Juelle, Ag. Marketing Assistant  
E-mail: [grace.juelle@fas.usda.gov](mailto:grace.juelle@fas.usda.gov)

William Dovale, Int'l Trade Specialist  
E-mail: [william.dovale@fas.usda.gov](mailto:william.dovale@fas.usda.gov)

### **B. Trinidad and Tobago Government Contacts**

Chemistry/Food & Drugs Division

Ministry of Health  
92 Frederick Street

Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.  
Tel: (868) 624-5968/ 623-5242/ 623-2834  
Fax: (868) 623-2477  
E-mail: [cfdd@carib-link.net](mailto:cfdd@carib-link.net)

Animal Production and Health Division  
Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources  
80 Abercromby St.  
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.  
Tel: (868) 625-5997, 625-1473  
Fax: (868) 625-5993  
E-mail: [aphmalmr@tstt.net.tt](mailto:aphmalmr@tstt.net.tt)

Plant Quarantine Service  
Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources  
Central Experiment Station  
Caroni North Bank Rd.  
Centeno, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.  
Tel/Fax: (868) 642-0718  
E-mail: [plantquarantine.centeno@gmail.com](mailto:plantquarantine.centeno@gmail.com)

Customs & Excise Division  
Ministry of Finance  
Nicholas Court, Independence Square  
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.  
Tel: (868) 625-3311  
Fax: (868) 625-6003, 625-4138

**Appendix I. Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

HEALTH CERTIFICATE  
EXPORT CERTIFICATE  
ANIMAL PRODUCTS

PORT

DATE  
AND NO.

This certificate is for Veterinary purposes only. It is valid for 30 days after the date of signature. In the case of transport by ship or rail, the time is prolonged by the time of the voyage.

This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, hog cholera, swine vesicular disease, African Swine fever, bovine fever, ~~bovine spongiform encephalopathy~~, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL DECLARATION

Fudge Twirl Ice Cream 4.5qt	105	1155.00
Neapolitan Ice Cream 4.5qt	105	1155.00
Vanilla Ice Cream Lite Soft Serve	32	960.00
Chocolate Ice Cream Lite Soft Serve	16	480.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>258 cases</b>	<b>3750.00 lbs</b>



(SIGNATURE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL)

(TYPED NAME)

(TITLE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL)

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER

Produced in Iowa

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE


PRODUCT (quantity, unit of measure, and kind)

Ice Cream - Assorted Flavors and Sizes  
258 cases 3750.00 lbs

IDENTIFICATION

CONVEYANCE

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE		FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
<b>PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE</b> TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF <b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>		PLACE OF ISSUE	
		NO	
		DATE ISSUED	
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>			
This is to certify that the plants, plant product or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests, specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.			
<b>DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT</b>			
1. DATE	2. TREATMENT <b>dip</b>		
3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient) <b>8-hydroxyquinoline Sulfate</b>	4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE <b>2 minutes, ambient air temperature</b>		
5. CONCENTRATION <b>1%</b>	6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT</b>			
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE EXPORTER		8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE	
9. NAME OF PRODUCE AND QUANTITY DECLARED <b>2000 count Citrus seed</b>		10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS <u>Citrus celebica</u> , <u>Citrus limonia</u> , <u>X Citroncirus sp.</u> , <u>Citrus reshni</u> , <u>Citrus paradisi</u> , <u>Poncirus trifoliata</u> , <u>Citrus aurantium</u> , <u>Citrus sinensis</u> , <u>Citrus reticulata</u> , <u>Citrus jambhiri</u>	
11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES <b>one padded envelope</b>		12. DISTINGUISHING MARKS	
13. PLACE OF ORIGIN <b>California</b>		14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE <b>Air mail</b>	
		15. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY <b>Piarco</b>	
<b>WARNING:</b> Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).			
<b>ADDITIONAL DECLARATION</b>			

"The products do not originate from the states that are under quarantine restrictions for any OIE list A diseases affecting poultry."

☒ I CERTIFY that the poultry and poultry products specified above came from birds that were officially given an antemortem and postmortem inspection and passed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture and are wholesome and fit for human consumption.

NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY AN INSPECTOR OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM

*By order of the Secretary of Agriculture*

INSPECTOR AND DISTRICT

This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.